

**Town of Royalston
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Andrew West, Chairman and Linda Alger, Member. Thomas Kellner was absent.

1. Chairman West called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 1/2/07 meeting were read. Two changes were made and noted. Mr. West made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Presentation of Award to Lillie Dobson – Mr. West read a letter on behalf of the town and presented a Certificate of Appreciation and granite plaque to Lillie Dobson in appreciation of her 30 years of service as Registrar of Voters.
4. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) The Friends of the Library are requesting the use of the Town Hall from 2/20 – 2/23/07 for painting classes. Ms. Alger made a motion to approve the request and to waive the fee. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
 - b) A memo from Brenda Putney, Treasurer regarding a property in tax title will be forwarded to the Tax Collector.
 - c) Mr. West received a call from Kathy Morris who stated that ice caused damage to a tree on the Bundschuh property, which, in turn, fell onto the satellite dish at the library. She has taken pictures of the damage. Mr. West told her to proceed with repairs.
 - d) The Board has received an invitation from the school district to an All Boards Meeting to be held on 2/8/07 at the middle school. The Royalston PTG met this evening regarding the superintendent's proposals for the district for next year. Ms. Alger attended a meeting of the Regional Agreement Subcommittee last week. The next meeting is scheduled for 1/31/07.
5. 7:15 p.m. – Public Hearing – Community Development Strategy: Mr. West opened the public hearing. Phil Delorey stated that a public hearing to discuss and approve a Community Development Strategy is required for those towns that apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Mr. West read the development strategy that was prepared last year. Discussion was held on possible options for CDBG funding. Keith Newton asked if Mr. Delorey would provide information on project completion and satisfaction of people who have participated in the housing rehabilitation project. He said that he would compile a report. Ms. Alger made a motion to authorize the chairman to sign all documents and applications related to the CDBG grant application. The vote was Ms. Alger, yes; and Mr. West, yes. Further discussion on the Community Development Strategy will be held at the next meeting when the full Board is present. The public hearing closed at 7:40 p.m.
6. Department Heads Reports:
 - a) DPW -
 - 1) Keith Newton reported on the meeting at the Mass. Highway office in Northampton last Friday. In attendance at the meeting were Mr. West; Vyto Andreliunas representing the Planning Board, Chris Mossman from Trowbridge Engineering, and Mr. Newton. The Route 32 project was discussed. Mr. West felt that the meeting went well and that the Mass. Highway representatives defined the engineering requirements more clearly.

2) An inspection of the Sewer Plant was completed by DEP recently.

b) Police Department –

- 1) Chief Deveneau stated that the low band system test, utilizing an antenna at the Town Hall, would be done this week. National Grid has donated a whip style antenna for the cruiser. It will be installed next week. He reported on the high band system and stated that the Mt. Grace antenna gets better reception.
- 2) He hopes to speak to Fire Chief Newton about scheduling a 24-Hour Dispatch Committee Meeting next week.

7. Old Business -

- a) Fire Department Issues: Mr. West stated that he received an additional request from the postmistress that the mail for the Fire Department be picked up more frequently. She said that it had not been picked up for six weeks. The Board had been assured previously that it was being picked up. Mr. West will ask Helen Divoll to pick up the mail and put it in the mailbox in the Town Hall. He will also send a letter to the postmistress and ask her to officially forward the fire department mail to the Town Hall post office box. Mr. West proposed that an Executive Session be held on 2/6/07 to discuss possible disciplinary action or dismissal of a town employee. Ms. Alger made a motion to schedule an Executive Session with the Fire Chief for 8:30 p.m. on 2/6/07. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

7. The Treasury warrant was signed.

8. At 8:34 p.m., Ms. Alger made a motion to adjourn. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.